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ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

4/2-6 Louisa Road,
BIRCHGROVE 2041

February, 1987

Dear Friend and Member,

The February Meeting will be held as follows:

DATE: Friday, 20th February, 1987 at 8.00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Chamber, Town Hall, Princes Highway, Rockdale

BUSINESS: General

SYLLABUS ITEM: Mr. Ralph Skelton will take us to Norfolk and Lord Howe Islands, illustrating his talk with history and colour slides. This should be most enjoyable and will revive memories for many of our members. Do come along and enjoy this evening.

Supper Roster: Mrs Samuelson, Captain and Mrs Longhurst

LADIES PLEASE BRING A PLATE

Mr. A. Ellis,
President and Research
Officer
Telephone: 587 1159

Mrs B. Perkins,
Publicity Officer

Telephone: 587 9164

Mrs K. Hamey,
Secretary

Telephone: 818 4954

Mrs E. Wright,
Treasurer
Telephone: 599 4884

Mrs K. Hamey,
Social Secretary

Telephone: 818 4954

Mrs E. Eardley,
Bulletin Editor

Telephone: 59 8078

Miss D. Row, Assistant Treasurer

Contentment and peace of mind thrive better in a country cottage than
in a stately palace

Quotation from "San Michele"

Nothing goes swifter than the years.

Ovid, Roman Poet (43 B.C. 17 A.D.)

A cheerio to our friends who are not so well. Our best wishes to all for a speedy recovery.

SPECIAL NOTICE

The St. George Historical Society is pleased to announce that the following books, Nos. 1-7 written and illustrated by the late Gifford H. Eardley for the Society, have been reprinted and are now available. Books Nos. 8, 9 and 10 have been compiled by Mrs Bronwyn Perkins.

No. 1	"The Wolli Creek Valley")	
No. 2	"Kogarah to Sans Souci Tramway")	
No. 3	"Saywells Tramway - Rockdale to Lady Robinsons Beach"	)	Book Nos. 1-8
No. 4	"Arncliffe to Bexley Tramway"	)	\$2.50 each
No. 5	"Our Heritage in Stone"	)	plus postage
No. 6	"All Stations to Como")	
No. 7	"Tempe and the Black Creek Valley")	
No. 8	"Early Churches of the St. George District")	
No. 9	"Early Settlers of the St. George District" Volume 1	)	Books Nos. 9-10
	(Price \$4.00 plus postage)	)	\$4.00 each plus
No. 10	"Early Settlers of the St. George District" Volume 2	)	postage

ALL BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE AT OUR MEETING, ALSO MEMBERS BADGES

For your copy of the above books, please contact one of the following:

Miss B. Otton	-	Telephone 59 4259 (after 8.00 p.m.)
Mrs E. Eardley	-	Telephone 59 8078
Mr. A. Ellis	-	Telephone 587 1159
Mrs K. Hamey	-	Telephone 818 4954

NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS ARE WELCOME

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION AS FROM JULY, 1986 (Have you overlooked yours???)

\$7.00 per Member \$10.00 per family

Will any other ladies who are interested to help on our supper roster please give me their names. We need volunteers. Will you help please?

E. Eardley.

SPECIAL NOTICE - CHRIST CHURCH, BEXLEY

Christ Church Anglican Church, Dunmore Street, Bexley will celebrate its Centenary this month with a special service conducted by the Rector, Reverend Keith Gridsale. The date - Sunday, 22nd February at 10.30 a.m. Regional Bishop, the Right Reverend John Reid will deliver the sermon. All are invited to attend this service, during which a new bookstand, presented by the Parishioners will be dedicated. You are cordially invited to partake of refreshments at the conclusion of the Service. In our March bulletin a brief history of Christ Church, Bexley will be presented.

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SOCIAL NEWS AND EVENTS

Quarantine Station Inspection

Date: Saturday, 21st March, 1987

Meeting Place: Manly Wharf, Circular Quay (11.15 a.m.)
Manly Ferry leaves at 11.30 a.m.
Take light lunch, short walk to Esplanade.

Inspection: 2.15 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Cost: \$3.00 excluding fares

A bus will take us to the Quarantine Station and return to Manly

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Birkenhead Point - Maritime Museum - Inspection

Date: Saturday, 2nd May, 1987

Meeting Place: Rockdale Bus Stop, Western side of railway station

Time: 11.00 a.m. Bus No.494 (Departure time 11.15 a.m.)

Cost: \$4.00 (excluding fares and Museum entrance fee)

Do support our Social Secretary, Kath Hamey, and attend these inspections which you will find interesting and enjoyable.

Churches Consecrated by Bishop Broughton:

Consecration date	Sydney
13 September 1831	St. Thomas, Milsons
20 November 1839	St. Peter, Cox's River
22 April 1840	St. Mary, Magdalene, South Creek
	(St. Mary's)
14 April 1841	St. Bartholomew, Prospect
15 July 1841	St. Peter, Richmond
5 April 1842	St. Paul, Cobby

2NBC-FM 90.1 - ST. GEORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1987 - Tuesday evenings - 6.30p.m. - 6.45p.m.

- Tape 191 - 3rd February - Railway Station - C.Wilding
Names
- Tape 192 - 10th February - A Little Piece of -C.Wilding
History - Homes
- Tape 193 - 17th February - Voices of - H.Loring
Australian Women
Part 1
- Tape 194 - 24th February - Voices of - H.Loring
Australian Women
Part 2
- Tape 195 - 3rd March - War dead are - J.Scholer
remembered and
Kogarah's Centenary
& When Beef was 1/-
- Tape 196 - 10th March - Alfred Charles - C. Abigail
Thomas
- Tape 197 - 17th March - Insignia of St.George -L.Abigail
born in antiquity
- Tape 198 - 24th March - To Sydney & a Fortune -J.Scholer
Thomas Holt
- Tape 199 - 31st March - Question Time No.1 - J Scholer
(by request)
- Tape 200 - 7th April - Origin & Growth of - L.Abigail
the Australian
Police Forces
- Tape 201 - 14th April - St.George's Church - C.Abigail
of England H'ville
- Tape 202 - 21st April - Question Time No.2. - J.Preddy
(by request)
- Tape 203 - 28th April - Question Time No.3 - J.Preddy
(by request)

SESQUICENTENARY OF WILLIAM GRANT BROUGHTON ...

FIRST BISHOP OF AUSTRALIA ...

-Southern Cross
February 1986

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SouthernCross - Anglican Information Office.

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The Archbishop Writes:

For William Grant Broughton, it was a long way from the comfortable life of a parsonage in the Winchester countryside to become Archdeacon of the penal colony of N.S.W. At 40, Broughton was well set up as parson of Farnham, master of the local grammar school, and as a chaplain to the Tower of London. With the Duke of Wellington as his patron, he had every prospect to go far in the English Church

Why then did he forsake the refinement of Farnham for the wattle and daub of N.S.W? It can't have been the money; most of the stipend was consumed in the costs of office. Nor was there any pension or guarantee of patronage on retirement. It was not a move that he took up without much thought and prayer. But it was a call from his Master which Broughton on his knees found impossible to decline.

The missionary Archdeacon arrived in Sydney in September 1829.

-Donald Robinson.

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The Broughton Chair:

The Broughton Chair, as it is known, is a beautifully embroidered carved amhogany chair which the Bishop brought to Australia, and was presented by his daughter to St. Andrew's Cathedral in 1886.

The work on the back of the chair depicts the Seal of the See of Sydney, the mitre and the Southern Cross surrounded by alternating rays of scarlet and bright rose pink, including seven constellations of the southern heavens.

The arm rests depict a stylised arrangement of the Archbishop's pastoral staff inscribed with the words "feed my sheep" and "feed my lambs". Miss Grace Barwick originally suggested the idea of embroidering the chair and saw the project to its completion in February 1982.

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Churches Consecrated by Bishop Broughton:

Consecration date.		Sydney.
13 September 1838	St. Thomas Mulgoa
20 November 1839	.....	St Peter, Cook's River
22 April 1840	.....	St. Mary Magdalene, South Creek (St. Mary's)
14 April 1841	.....	St. Bartholomew, Prospect
15 July 1841	.....	St. Peter, Richmond
5 April 1842	.....	St. Paul, Cobbitty

Consecration Date. Sydney.

25 April	1842	.....	St. Mark the Evangelist, Appin
14 January	1845	.....	St. Mary the Virgin, Denham Court
17 August	1845	.....	St. John the Baptist, Ashfield
9 September	1845	.....	St. Stephen, Camperdown (Newtown)
10 September	1845	.....	Christ Church, St. Laurence
31 December	1845	.....	Christ Church, Bong Bong (Parish of Berrima with Moss Vale)
5 August	1846	.....	"to be named St. Thomas'" Nth. Sydney
21 September	1846	.....	St. Philip, Clydesdale (Parish of Windsor)
3 February	1847	.....	St. Mary Magdalene, Wiseman's Ferry
13 January	1848	.....	St Michael's Wollongong
14 January	1848	.....	St Luke's Dapto
27 January	1848	.....	All Saints, Marsfield (North Parramatta)
2 May	1848	.....	St Mary the Virgin, Balmain
7 June	1849	.....	St. John the Evangelist, Camden
9 June	1849	.....	Holy Trinity, Berrima
13 December	1849	.....	St Mark, Greendale
31 December	1849	.....	St Thomas, Enfield
7 November	1850	.....	Holy Innocents, Cabramatta (Rossmore)

Consecration Date. Bathurst

3 December	1838	.....	Holy Trinity, Bathurst (Kelso)
16 May	1841	.....	St John, Mudgee
6 December	1841	.....	St Paul, Carcoar
14 December	1849	.....	All Saints, Bathurst

Canberra & Goulburn

7 February	1845	.....	St. Saviour, Goulburn
8 March	1845	.....	Christ Church, Queanbeyan
9 March	1845	.....	St. John, Canberra (Canberra)
23 February	1850	.....	Christ Church, Cooma
8 January	1852	.....	St. Clement, Yass

Newcastle

31 December	1840	.....	St. James, Morpeth
28 June	1843	.....	St Mary, West Maitland
29 June	1843	.....	St. Peter, East Maitland
5 October	1845	.....	St Luke's the Evangelist, Scone
29 October	1845	.....	St Alban, Muswellbrook
26 November	1845	.....	St. Mary the Virgin, Allyn River (Parish of Paterson)

Tasmania

8 May	1838	.....	St. Peter, Hamilton
10 May	1838	.....	St. James, Jericho
11 May	1838	.....	St. John, Ross
12 May	1838	.....	St. Andrew, Perth
19 May	1838	.....	Richmond
26 May	1838	.....	St. George Hobart Town, (Battery Point)
29 May	1838	.....	St. John, Newtown.

- Trish Roberts

Tusculum: Bishop Broughton's Residence:

"Our house is situated on a neck of land between Woolloomooloo Bay and Rushcutters Bay... (providing) sea breezes ... (and) a really superb view of the blue waters of the Port, as calm as a lake..." - Letter from Broughton to Dr Keate (Eton College) May 1, 1837 Anl.Ms.

So wrote Bishop Broughton about Tusculum, his residence on Darlinghurst Ridge. The villa was built between 1831-36 by a Scottish emigrant turned merchant, A.B. Spark, who arrived in the colony in 1823. The area was established through a series of land grants by the Colonial Office to create a wealthy and respectable enclave away from the 'sordid populace' of Sydney Town. So it was that Broughton and his family settled at Tusculum in 1836.

The villa, as it was called, was built in a very simple style by John Verge an emigrant London building tradesman come architect. Tusculum's basic design is a rectilinear 'box' which rises from the ground for two storeys. Originally, a ground floor verandah ran around three sides of the building but after the departure of Broughton, the verandah was demolished by the new owner, William Long. In its place, Long built a two-storey verandah which stand today and is currently being restored along with the rest of the building.

Broughton leased the building for a year at £200 per annum and after Government House, Tusculum became the most socially important residence. This was due largely to the Bishop's presence but also because the house became the centre of hospitality for missionaries, lay people and officers of the colony. Shortly before Broughton left for England, the first conference of Australasian bishops was convened and Tusculum accommodated some of the bishops and was the centre of activities for many of the wives.

Yet the building was not without its faults. During his time there, Broughton frequently complained about the lack of facilities. Often he was the handyman, putting up gates, fences, a pantry and library shelves. At first the house also lacked a water pump and the bishop was even required to build an outhouse.

In 1836, Darlinghurst ridge was covered by a low scrub that ran down to the water's edge. There was no garden nor lawn, though Broughton must have created one because there is reference in the 1841 proposed sub-division and auction to his losing his 'horse paddock and orchard'. There are also other references to a 'kitchen garden' and even 'rose trees' from England. The original site must have been large for the gate posts would now stand in Macleay Street but successive sub-divisions have whittled the property to the small site on which the house stands in Manning Street, Potts Point.

Because of the many alterations over the years, including the closing in of the verandah in the 1930s when Tusculum was a private hospital, much of the original interior has been obscured. The original French doors, which encircled both floors, have been removed as have the fireplaces, the

front door, the fanlights and much of the joinery. To look at the building today, boarded up and marred by graffiti, the sense of loss is pervasive. However, restoration is being carried out and Tusculum will become the headquarters of the N.S.W. Chapter of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects.

While Broughton was in residence, the building passed out of the hands of the original owner, A.B. Spark. Spark had made his money in the buoyant economic period of the 1820s and 30s but the depression of the 40s caused his financial ruin. He mortgaged the house in January 1841 but by November was forced to sell it to a Charles William Roemer for £12,000. Later in 1842 Broughton suggested the possibility of the Church purchasing Tusculum as a future residence for the Bishop, though nothing came of this. Finally, in 1848, the building was sold again, this time to wine and spirit merchant, William Long.

Broughton left for England late in 1852. His residing at Tusculum conferred a special status on the building, historically and architecturally. This was recognised by the N.S.W. Government when it decided to resume the building in January 1983, almost 130 years later.

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Two more articles on Bishop Broughton, will appear in following Bulletins.

They are: They Must have a Church filled with the glory of God.
- Janet West.

Bishop Broughton of Australia...

- Margaret Rodgers interviews Professor Ken
Cable on William Grant Broughton.

Both articles will be published with permission of the Anglican Information Office and reprinted from the Southern Cross - Feb. 1986.

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LOFTUS JUNCTION MAKES RAILWAY HISTORY ...

... Peter Neve
Shire Railway
Historian

... St. George & Sutherland
Shire Leader
22nd April 1986.

A small part of Sutherland Shire's railway history passed almost unnoticed on Sunday when the Loftus Junction signal box celebrated 100 years of continuous operation.

The small wooden structure was erected when the Illawarra railway was being extended from Hurstville to Waterfall to operate the points and associated signalling for the military railway to Loftus, now Royal National Park.

It was the first "interlocked" signal box on the line and the second oldest in the State. This means the signalman could not set up conflicting movements of trains. It was intended to be used only as necessary for branch line use and its first day of operations was 20th April 1886, for the Easter camp and military review held in the park.

The military review was a popular day's outing in those days and Sydney's citizens flocked to the park in their thousands, much to the dismay of railway authorities.

After providing carriages for 3 divisions of the advertised 10.25a.m. train, on Easter Monday, there were still passengers waiting to travel. A 4th division was made up, but as no carriages were left, cattle wagons had to be used.

As there was originally no regular service to the Royal, a short platform was provided on the main line to Waterfall with the southern-most end immediately in front of the signal box. This came to be known, not unnaturally, as Loftus Junction.

Because of the operational difficulties in starting steam trains on the steeply rising gradient, the station was later moved to its present location a few hundred metres towards Sutherland. It was re-named Loftus when the original Loftus station became National Park in 1896.

Loftus Junction signal box became very busy during holiday periods in the era of steam trains and few motor vehicles.

Part of the branch line had to be duplicated in 1899 requiring a 20 lever frame to work the points and signals.

Despite the extension of electrification from Sutherland to National Park in December 1926, patronage slowly fell off.

The opening of the line from Sutherland to Cronulla in 1939, also contributed further to decline in rail travel to the Park.

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Branch line track arrangements were simplified over the years and the terminus was wholly rebuilt in 1979 for the park's centenary, but still the old junction signal box remained.

There have been improvements over the years - the most noticeable being the replacement with color light signals of the old semaphore arm signs, in 1980.

The original 20 lever signal frame worn out after years of use and by then partially redundant, was replaced in 1953.

To-day the signal box is almost an anacronism - with only 2 trains daily on week days and a couple more on week-ends and public holidays.

As a result the box is manned only as necessary.

Because of the operation of the line, the signal box was moved to its present location a few hundred metres later towards Sutherland. It was re-named Lotius when the original Lotius station became National Park in 1896.

Lotius Junction signal box became very busy during holiday periods in the early years and for many years.

Part of the branch line had to be duplicated in 1899 requiring a 20 lever frame to work the points and signals.

Despite the extension of electrification from Sutherland to National Park in December 1926, patronage slowly fell off.

The opening of the line from Sutherland to Cronulla in 1939, also contributed further to decline in rail travel to the park.